

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Attorney Docket No. 15415US01)**

In the Application of:

Sherman (Xuemin) Chen

Electronically Filed on 22-OCT-2007

Serial No. 10/769,173

Filed: January 30, 2004

For: A SECURE KEY
AUTHENTICATION AND
LADDER SYSTEM

Examiner: Yogesh Paliwal

Group Art Unit: 2135

Confirmation No. 7811

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED
EXAMINATION**

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper responds to the final Office Action mailed on June 21, 2007 ("Final Office Action") in the above-identified application, **with a period of reply through October 22, 2007 pursuant to the attached petition for one-month extension.** The Applicant respectfully requests entry of the following amendments preliminary to continued examination in the instant application and consideration of the following remarks. The Applicant also respectfully requests continued examination in the instant application.

Application No. 10/769,173
Reply to Office Action of June 21, 2007

The **amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.